

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on August 11, 2006, the Examiner reiterated the election made to prosecute claims 1-26; objected to the title; rejected claims 1, 5-7, 14, 17 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0122428 to Kawakami et al.; rejected claims 2, 3, 11, 15, 16 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable to Kawakami et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,370,515 to Donaldson and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0042928 to Yi et al.; rejected claims 4, 8-10, 12, 18-20, 23, 24 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawakami et al. in view of Donaldson and rejected claims 13 and 21 as being unpatentable over 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawakami et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,522,872 to Nishimura et al.

In response, Applicant has amended the title. Applicant believes this title is more descriptive and should obviate the objection.

Also in response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 10, 11 and 14 and cancelled claims 5, 8, 9, 19 and 22-30. No new matter has been added.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 14 to include recitation of two ground layers that include signal path circuitry and a third ground layer that does not. This structure is not taught or suggested by Kawakami et al. For at least this reason, claims 1 and 14 are allowable over Kawakami et al.

With respect to the rejection of claims 2, 3, 11, 15, 16 and 25, Applicant does not understand the relevance of the Donaldson reference. Nowhere in the rejection of these claims does the Examiner refer to Donaldson.

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Claims not specifically mentioned above are allowable due to their dependence on an allowed base claim.

CONCLUSION

No fees are believed due for this response. However, the Office is authorized to charge any additional fees or underpayments of fees (including fees for petitions for extensions of time) under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 to account number 502117. Any overpayments should be credited to the same account.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application, withdrawal of the rejections made in the last Office Action and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. The Applicant's representative can be reached at the below telephone number if the Examiner has any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date